Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please add claims 35-37 as follows:

1-5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Previously Presented)   A coin mechanism for a vending machine requiring at least one coin before a selected product will be dispensed, comprising:

a support member;

a channel member movably connected to the support member, the channel member having a contoured channel formed thereon, wherein the channel member is configured to define a coin slot along with the support member when the channel member is in contact with the support member, the coin slot configured to receive and guide the at least one coin to a desired location, an actuator opening formed on the support and channel members at a location corresponding to the location of the at least one coin in the desired location, the channel member configured to normally be in contact with the support member and to displace relative to the support member when the coin mechanism is actuated;

a coin return actuator connected to the support member, the return actuator comprising at least one protrusion protruding through the support member, the protrusion configured to hold the at least one coin at least in part against a wall of the contoured channel when the channel member is in contact with the support member, the protrusion further configured to travel in a second actuator opening formed on the support member to release the at least one coin into a coin return receptacle upon actuation of the coin return actuator;

an actuator configured to be actuated by the user, comprising:

a contact portion disposed frontward of the support member;

at least one support element movably disposed through the support and channel members, the at least one support element having a front portion disposed between the contact portion and the support member, and

an actuation member, wherein when actuated said actuation member is configured to protrude through the actuator opening in the support member and transmit an actuation force from the user onto the coin to press the at least one coin disposed in the desired location against the channel member to pivotally displace the channel member relative to the support member; and

a product support member connected to the channel member, the product support member comprising an edge configured to releasably support the selected product disposed in a product receptacle, the edge configured to not support the selected product upon actuation of the coin mechanism, causing the selected product to be dispensed, the product support member further configured to releasably engage at least one product in the product receptacle disposed above the selected product following the dispensation of the selected product.

7. (Original) The coin mechanism of Claim 6, wherein the channel member is hinged to the support member.

8. (Original) The coin mechanism of Claim 6, wherein the channel member is rotatably connected to the support member.

9. (Original) The coin mechanism of Claim 6 further comprising at least one coin guide attached to the channel member and protruding over the contoured channel, wherein the at least one coin guide is configured to prevent the at least one coin disposed in the contoured channel from being released to the coin return receptacle when the channel member is displaced relative to the support member during actuation of the coin mechanism.

10.   (Original)   The coin mechanism of Claim 6, wherein the channel member is configured to release at least one coin into a coin bank when the channel member is displaced relative to the support member during actuation of the coin mechanism.

11.   (Original)   The coin mechanism of Claim 6, wherein the actuation member is configured to protrude through the actuator opening formed on the channel member when the actuator is actuated by a user without the at least one coin disposed in the desired location, preventing the selected product from being dispensed.

12.   (Original)   The coin mechanism of Claim 6, wherein a spring is disposed between the channel member and the product receptacle, the spring configured to displace a flag member to engage at least one product disposed above the selected product through an opening in the product receptacle during actuation of the coin mechanism.

13.   (Original)   The coin mechanism of Claim 12, wherein a second spring is disposed at the front portion of the at least one support element, the second spring configured to generate a return force on the contact portion when the actuator is actuated by a user.

14.   (Original)   The coin mechanism of Claim 6, wherein the product support member is removably attached to the channel member.

15.   (Original)   The coin mechanism of Claim 6, wherein the product support member defines an opening, the support member displaced upon actuation of the coin mechanism so that the edge removes support from the selected product, causing the selected product to be dispensed through the opening.

16-18. (Canceled).

19.   (Previously Presented)   A coin mechanism for a vending machine requiring at least one coin before a selected product will be dispensed, comprising:

a support member having an inner surface and an outer surface;

a channel member rotatably connected to the support member, the channel member having a contoured channel formed thereon, the channel configured to define a coin slot when the channel member is in contact with the support member, the coin slot configured to receive and guide the at least one coin to a desired location, an actuator opening formed on the support and channel members at a location corresponding to the location of the at least one coin in the desired location, the channel member configured to normally be in contact with the support member and to displace relative to the support member when the coin mechanism is actuated, releasing at least one coin disposed in the contoured channel into a coin bank;

a coin guide attached to the channel member and protruding over the contoured channel, wherein the coin guide is configured to prevent the at least one coin disposed in the contoured channel from being released to a coin return receptacle when the channel member is displaced relative to the support member during actuation of the coin mechanism;

a coin return actuator connected to the support member, the return actuator comprising at least one protrusion protruding through the support member, the protrusion configured to hold the at least one coin at least in part against a wall of the contoured channel of the channel member when the channel member is in contact with the support member, the at least one protrusion further configured to travel in a second actuator opening formed on the support member to release the at least one coin into the coin return receptacle upon action of the coin return actuator;

an actuator configured to be actuated by a user, comprising

a contact portion disposed frontward of the support member,

at least one support element movably disposed through the support and channel members, the at least one support element having a front portion disposed between the contact portion and the support member,

an actuation member configured to protrude through the actuator opening in the support member and transmit an actuation force from the user onto the coin to press the at least one coin disposed in the desired location against the channel member upon actuation of the coin mechanism to pivotally displace the channel member relative to the support member, the actuation member further configured to protrude through the actuator opening formed on the channel member when the actuator is depressed by the user without the at least one coin disposed in the desired location, preventing the selected product from being dispensed,

a spring disposed between the channel member and a product receptacle, the spring configured to displace a flag member to engage at least one product disposed above the selected product through an opening in the product receptacle during actuation of the coin mechanism, and

a second spring disposed at the front portion of the at least one support element, the second spring configured to generate a return force on the contact portion when the actuator is actuated by the user; and

a product support member removably attached to the channel member, the product support member comprising an edge configured to releasably support the selected product disposed in the product receptacle, the product support member further defining an opening, the support member displaced upon actuation of the coin mechanism so that the edge disengages the selected product, allowing the selected product to be dispensed through the opening, the support member further configured to releasably support at least one product in the product receptacle disposed above the selected product upon dispensation of the selected product.

20-28. (Canceled).

29.   (Previously Presented)   A coin mechanism for a vending machine comprising:

a contoured channel configured to receive and direct at least one coin to a desired location in the channel, one coin of the least one coins at least partially obstructing an opening formed in the channel surface; and

an actuator configured to be actuated by a user and to transmit a force onto said coin at least partially obstructing the opening to press the coin against the channel so as to transmit a force to said channel to displace the channel about an axis thereof to dispense a selected product from the vending machine.

30.   (Previously Presented)   The coin mechanism of Claim 29, further comprising:
        a product support member removably coupled to the channel member, the product support member configured to releasably support a selected product disposed in a product receptacle, the product support member configured to be displaced by the pivotal displacement of the channel member to dispense the selected product to the user, the support member further configured to releasably support at least one product in the product receptacle disposed above the selected product during the dispensation of the selected product.

31.   (Previously Presented)   The coin mechanism of claim 6 wherein said actuator member when actuated is configured to protrude through said actuator opening in the support member and to penetrate said actuator opening in the channel member when the coin is not at the desired location.

32.   (Previously Presented)   A coin mechanism for a vending machine comprising:
        a first plate comprising an opening;
        a second plate pivotally coupled to the first plate, wherein the first and second plates pivot relative to each other between a first position wherein a portion of the first plate is in contact with a portion of the second plate and a second position wherein said portion of the first plate is not in contact with said portion of the second plate, wherein when in the first position a slot is formed between said first and second plates, wherein a surface of the first plate defines a first wall of the slot and wherein a surface of the second plate defines a second wall of the slot opposite the first wall, wherein said slot is configured to receive a coin, and wherein said opening is in communication with said slot; and

an actuator comprising a portion for penetrating said opening, wherein when said coin at least partially obstructs said opening, actuation of said actuator will transmit a force to said coin which will cause the second plate to pivot relative to the first plate to the second position.

33.   (Previously Presented)   The coin mechanism as recited in claim 32 wherein when said coin does not obstruct said opening, actuation of said actuator will not cause the force to be transmitted thereby it will not cause the second plate to pivot relative to the first plate to the second position.

34.   (Previously Presented)   The coin mechanism as recited in claim 32 wherein when said second plate pivots to the second position said mechanism causes a product to be dispensed from said dispensing machine.

35.   (New) A coin mechanism for a vending machine comprising:
        a first plate comprising an opening;
        a second plate pivotally coupled to the first plate, wherein the first and second plates pivot relative to each other between a first position and a second position, wherein when in the first position a slot is defined between said first and second plates, wherein a surface of the first plate defines a first wall of the slot and wherein a surface of the second plate defines a second wall of the slot opposite the first wall, wherein said slot is configured to receive a coin, and wherein said opening is in communication with said slot; and
        an actuator comprising a portion for penetrating said opening, wherein when said coin at least partially obstructs said opening, actuation of said actuator will transmit a force to said coin which will cause the second plate to pivot relative to the first plate to the second position.

36.   (New) The coin mechanism as recited in claim 35 wherein when said coin does not obstruct said opening, actuation of said actuator will not cause the force to be transmitted thereby it will not cause the second plate to pivot relative to the first plate to the second position.

37.   (New) The coin mechanism as recited in claim 35 wherein when said second plate pivots to the second position said mechanism causes a product to be dispensed from said dispensing machine.